

Documents on Diplomacy: Exercises

Wherein Lies the Advantage of the Sovereign States

New England States:

- Rocky soil not as fertile as the Middle and Southern states. Farms were small; mainly provided food for individual families
- Rich resources including timber valued for building of homes and ships; timber exported to England.
- Hunting for furs for trade
- Excellent harbors and some inland waterways
- Boston was major port
- Bountiful fish and other sea life
- Relied upon British and European imports for many household items.
- Part of the Atlantic trade network that included England as well as the West African coast and the Caribbean plantation islands. The Triangle Trade included slaves sold in the West Indies for molasses sent to New England to make rum which went to Africa to trade for slaves.
- Moderate summers, cold winters.
- Villages and churches were center of life. Town meetings were political forums.

Middle Atlantic States:

- Appalachian highlands and coastal lowlands
- Rich farmlands.
- Grain and livestock; traded grain with Europe
- Philadelphia and Baltimore were the major ports
- Wheat and other grains grown in Pennsylvania and New York
- Iron factories in Maryland; paper and textiles in Pennsylvania
- Traded raw materials to England for manufactured items
- Formed market towns, some would become large cities
- Diverse lifestyles and religions

Southern States:

- Appalachian highlands and coastal lowlands.
- Almost entirely agricultural.
- Main feature was plantation with many acres of farmland and buildings. Labor force was indentured servants and, primarily, slaves. Main destination for slave trade
- Homes were widely separated, diminishing the growth of large towns and cities.
- Three major cash crops: tobacco, rice, indigo
- Good harbors; Charleston was the main harbor
- Main commerce with England and elsewhere in United States
- Extensive trade and social ties with the British Caribbean islands
- Wealthiest region
- Humid climate
- Population begins to move West; growing interest in access to the Mississippi River for trade